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TUTU, IN U.N. SPEECH,

ADVANCES DEADLINE

DPS 85217

NEW YORK, (DPS, Oct. 31) -- Events in South Africa have moved "so desperately quickly", according to Bishop Desmond Tutu, that he feels forced to move up his self-imposed deadline for the imposition of international sanctions against the Pretoria regime.

The Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg made that assessment in an address this week before the UN Special Political Committee. Tutu was the only speaker in a noon hearing on Oct. 28 before the panel charged with developing a UN response to the current crisis in South Africa. Other South African leaders were heard in earlier sessions.

The Nobel Laureate said the world owed it to future generations to end apartheid. Blacks, he said, would remember who helped them to be free. He aligned himself with the recent declaration of Commonwealth nations that calls for imposition of mild sanctions immediately and much stronger ones in six months if steps to dismantle apartheid have not been taken.

At his installation in February, Tutu said he would call for the institution of punitive sanctions if apartheid had not been dismantled within 18 to 24 months from that point.

Tutu said South Africa had been regarded by some in the developed world as the last bastion of democracy in southern Africa. Some had accepted the repression of the regime as the price to pay to keep out communism. That was an exceptionally high price to pay.

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Blacks in South Africa had celebrated the victory against Nazism 40 years ago, he said. Some of the blacks had fought against the Nazi armies in North Africa. They had fought for a new world in which all would live in freedom.

It was ironic, he went on, that some of the rulers in today's South Africa were among the most vocal of that war effort. The black people had believed that the dreams would be fulfilled once the free world had defeated the Nazis. "What a rude awakening awaited us!" he added.

The world had not listened to the "whimper of children with extended tummies" in the bantustans, he said. The world had not listened to the anguish of those who had to suffer through solitary confinement. It had not listened to the last cries of those who had died mysteriously in detention.

Apartheid, so it was told, when developed to its natural conclusion, would mean that there would be no black South Africans, he said. He recalled that he used to travel on a passport which listed his nationality as "undetermined at present".

Apartheid could not be reformed, it must be dismantled, he said. "You don't reform a Frankenstein, you destroy it" he declared.

It was quite remarkable that the black people of South Africa had remained peace-loving, almost to a fault, he continued. The response of the authorities to peaceful demonstrations had been escalating violence and repression.

South Africa was a violent country, he continued. The African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) had called for violent struggle only after being outlawed by the authorities. Many Western countries had won their independence only after violent struggle.

Those countries that supported the struggle against apartheid with words and actions were friends of the black people, he said. "The enemies of our enemies are our friends."

Bishop Tutu asked whether, in the view of the world, the blacks of South Africa were expendable and whether there would be more concern if the casualties of the violence in that country had been white people.

He said that if he had been white, he would require "special grace" to resist a system that would have provided him with such extraordinary privileges. Those whites who were opposing apartheid in South Africa should therefore be praised to the skies, he said.

In his call, he echoed the points demanded by the Commonwealth nations. He said the Government of South Africa should end emergency rule; dismantle apartheid; release political prisoners and allow the return of political exiles; and begin dialogue with the authentic representatives of black South Africans.


He asked that bank loans be renegotiated so that credit would not be extended to South Africa until his four conditions were met.

He asked the international community to be part of the "exhilarating enterprise" of freeing South Africa from apartheid so that blacks and whites together could be free.

Later, in a press conference, Tutu insisted this statement should not be viewed as "a threat. Rather, it is a sign of hope, an assurance that apartheid can be dismantled. This call is still a demonstration of our commitment to peaceful change. We are on the brink, but it is possible to move away."

Between those sessions, Tutu had lunch with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and a number of guests including New York Bishop Paul Moore. Tutu pressed the case for his scholarship fund for South African refugee students. More than 10,000 young blacks have fled to neighboring countries and an increasing number of white youths are also refugees in protest of South Africa's conscription policies.

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THE COMMONWEALTH ACCORD ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

We consider that South Africa's continuing refusal to dismantle apartheid, its illegal occupation of Namibia, and its aggression against its neighbours constitute a serious challenge to the values and principles of the Commonwealth, a challenge which Commonwealth countries cannot ignore. At New Delhi, we expressed the view that "only the eradication of apartheid and the establishment of majority rule on the basis of free and fair exercise of universal adult suffrage by all the people in a united and non-fragmented South Africa can lead to a just and lasting solution of the explosive situation prevailing in Southern Africa." We are united in the belief that reliance on the range of pressures adopted so far has not resulted in fundamental changes we have sought over many years. The growing crisis and intensified repression in South Africa mean that apartheid must be dismantled now if a greater tragedy is to be averted and that concerted pressure must be brought to achieve that end. We consider that the situation calls for urgent practical steps.

2. We, therefore, call on the authorities in Pretoria for the following steps to be taken in a genuine manner and as a matter of urgency:

- (a) Declare that the system of apartheid will be dismantled and specific and meaningful action taken in fulfilment of that intent.
- (b) Terminate the existing state of emergency.
- (c) Release immediately and unconditionally Nelson Mandela and all others imprisoned and detained for their opposition to apartheid.
- (d) Establish political freedom and specifically lift the existing ban on the African National Congress and other political parties.
- (e) Initiate, in the context of a suspension of violence on all sides, a process of dialogue across lines of colour, politics and religion, with a view to establishing a non-racial and representative government.

3. We have agreed on a number of measures which have as their rationale impressing on the authorities in Pretoria the compelling urgency of dismantling apartheid and erecting the structures of democracy in South Africa.

The latter, in particular, demands a process of dialogue involving the true representatives of the majority black population of South Africa. We believe that we must do all we can to assist that process, while recognising that the forms of political settlement in South Africa are for the people of that country - all the people - to determine.

4. To this end, we have decided to establish a small group of eminent Commonwealth persons to encourage through all practicable ways the evolution of that necessary process of political dialogue. We are not unmindful of the difficulties such an effort will encounter, including the possibility of initial rejection by the South African authorities, but, we believe it to be our duty to leave nothing undone that might contribute to peaceful change in South Africa and avoid the dreadful prospect of violent conflict that looms over South Africa, threatening people of all races in the country and the peace and stability of the entire Southern Africa region.

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5. We are asking the President of Zambia and the Prime Ministers of Australia, The Bahamas, Canada, India, the United Kingdom and Zimbabwe to develop with the Secretary-General the modalities of this effort to assist the process of political dialogue in South Africa. We would look to the group of eminent persons to seek to facilitate the processes of dialogue referred to in paragraph 2(e) above and by all practicable means to advance the fulfilment of the objectives of this Accord.

6. For our part, we have, as an earnest of our opposition to apartheid, reached accord on a programme of common action as follows:

- (i) we declare the Commonwealth's support for the strictest enforcement of the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa, in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolutions 418 and 558 and commit ourselves to prosecute violators to the fullest extent of the law;
- (ii) we reaffirm the Gleneagles Declaration of 1977, which called upon Commonwealth members to take every practical step to discourage sporting contacts with South Africa;
- (iii) we agree upon, and commend to other governments, the adoption of the following further economic measures against South Africa, which have already been adopted by a number of member countries:
 - (a) a ban on all new government loans to the Government of South Africa and its agencies;
 - (b) a readiness to take unilaterally what action may be possible to preclude the import of Krugerrands;
 - (c) no Government funding for trade missions to South Africa or for participation in exhibitions and trade fairs in South Africa;
 - (d) a ban on the sale and export of computer equipment capable of use by South African military forces, police or security forces;
 - (e) a ban on new contracts for the sale and export of nuclear goods, materials and technology to South Africa;
 - (f) a ban on the sale and export of oil to South Africa;
 - (g) a strict and rigorously controlled embargo on imports of arms, ammunition, military vehicles and paramilitary equipment from South Africa;
 - (h) an embargo on all military co-operation with South Africa; and
 - (i) discouragement of all cultural and scientific events except where these contribute towards the ending of apartheid or have no possible role in promoting it.

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7. It is our hope that the process and measures we have agreed upon will help to bring about progress towards the objectives stated above in six months. The Heads of Government mentioned in paragraph 5 above, or their representatives, will then meet to review the situation. If in their opinion adequate progress has not been made within this period, we agree to consider the adoption of further measures. Some of us would, in that event, consider the following steps among others:

- (a) a ban on air links with South Africa;
- (b) a ban on new investment or reinvestment of profits earned in South Africa;
- (c) a ban on the import of agricultural products from South Africa;
- (d) the termination of double taxation agreements with South Africa;
- (e) the termination of all government assistance to investment in, and trade with, South Africa;
- (f) a ban on all government procurement in South Africa;
- (g) a ban on government contracts with majority owned South African companies;
- (h) a ban on the promotion of tourism to South Africa.

8. Finally, we agree that should all of the above measures fail to produce the desired results within a reasonable period, further effective measures will have to be considered. Many of us have either taken or are prepared to take measures which go beyond those listed above, and each of us will pursue the objectives of this Accord in all the ways and through all appropriate fora open to us. We believe, however, that in pursuing this Programme jointly, we enlarge the prospects of an orderly transition to social, economic and political justice in South Africa and peace and stability in the Southern Africa region as a whole.

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TWO NEW YORK DIOCESES

ACT ON AIDS CRISIS

DPS 85219

NEW YORK (DPS, Oct. 31) — There are currently nearly 14,000 cases of severe AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) in the U.S. Nearly 5,000 of these are in New York state, most in New York City, and the Dioceses of New York and Central New York are among those which have recently been taking steps to deal with the crisis.

The response of the dioceses is, in part, a result of a resolution passed by the General Convention this September. That resolution repudiated "any and all indiscriminate statements which condemn or reject the victims of AIDS," called for the Executive Council to develop and fund various AIDS-related programs, and requested the Presiding Bishop to establish and lead a National Day of Prayer and Healing with special intentions for the AIDS crisis. It also supported "substantial federal funding for research."

At the diocesan convention held here in late October, the Rt. Rev. Paul Moore, Bishop of New York and chairman of Governor Mario Cuomo's Advisory Council on AIDS, reported on the latest medical information regarding transmission of AIDS and added, "there is absolutely no reason to be anxious about receiving Communion from the common cup. However, if someone is nervous about it, they may receive just the Bread and be assured of the full benefit of the Sacrament." This was a reiteration of the position taken by Moore in a pastoral letter issued prior to the Convention, in which he also stated, "We, as Christians, are called to give warm, loving support to persons with AIDS and to encourage others to do likewise."

In response to Moore's address to Convention, a series of resolutions were proposed by the Rev. William Doubleday, a chaplain at St. Luke's/Roosevelt Hospital here who works extensively with AIDS victims and who chairs the Diocesan Committee on AIDS. The resolutions parallel the General Convention piece and call on Moore to work with the Presiding Bishop on the National Day of Prayer and Healing. Where the General Convention resolution called for presentation of concerns to the federal government and requested research funding from that source, the diocesan resolution substitutes Cuomo and New York City

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Mayor Edward Koch, urging "long term, substantial funding for research, education and adequate patient care."

In speaking for the resolution, Doubleday characterized its response to the AIDS crisis as "pastoral, educational and prophetic." He spoke of the need to combat what he termed "afraIDS" -- the irrational fear that stigmatizes friends and relatives of AIDS victims, as well as the patients themselves. He emphasized that AIDS, while identified in the public mind with the homosexual community, is growing fastest among intravenous drug users -- those most difficult to reach with education and least likely to have a support network -- adding that we are seeing an increasingly poor and disenfranchised AIDS population.

The resolutions passed unanimously.

Earlier in October, the Diocese of Central New York held a gathering attended by nearly 100 clergy to discuss the role of the Church and its ministers in dealing with growing public concern over AIDS. Called by the Rt. Rev. O'Kelly Whitaker, Bishop of Central New York, in response to the General Convention resolution on AIDS, the meeting heard from Whitaker and the Rev. George Nagle, a prison chaplain who has considerable experience with AIDS victims and their families.

Nagle spoke of his belief that the impotence of the medical community in the face of AIDS makes the role of the priest more important. Like Doubleday, he is concerned with the fear which puts AIDS victims and their families in the role of modern lepers. Whitaker expressed the hope that Church communities will welcome and support AIDS patients, adding, "This is not easy, but without question, it is our mission." He emphasized the educational function of clergy with people of their parishes, with AIDS victims and their families and with those whose lifestyles make them particularly vulnerable to the disease.

The conference also made recommendations for the agenda of a diocesan task force to be appointed by Whitaker. Among the charges to that group are: to collect and share current information within the diocese and with other denominations, to work with existing groups dealing with AIDS, to develop liturgical resources for parishes, and to play an advocacy role outside the Church where that is appropriate.

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